

MICHIGAN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

P.O. Box 30014 Lansing, Michigan 48909-7514

Minutes of the House Standing Committee on Oversight and Ethics

Thursday, February 18, 2016

10:30 a.m.

Room 326 House Office Building

The House Standing Committee on Oversight and Ethics was called to order by Representative Ed McBroom, Chair.

The Clerk called the roll; members present were **Representatives McBroom**, **Howrylak**, **Graves**, **Theis**, **Robinson**, and **Pagan**. (6/6)

The Clerk announced that a quorum was present.

The Chair laid before the committee the minutes of February 11, 2016 as amended.

Representative Theis moved to adopt the minutes of February 11, 2016 as printed. There being no objection the motion prevailed by unanimous consent of the members present; the minutes were adopted as amended.

The Chair laid before the committee House Bill 4629.

HB 4629 (Lucido)

Criminal procedure; forfeiture; requirement for property owner to provide cash bond to contest forfeiture proceedings and to pay costs and expenses of forfeiture proceedings under certain circumstances; eliminate.

The following individuals submitted a testimony card in opposition to the bill, but did not wish to speak:

Casey Steffee, Governmental Affairs Analyst for Michigan Association of Counties, and Sheriff Terry Jungel Executive Director Michigan Sheriffs' Association.

The following individuals submitted a testimony card in support of the bill, but did not wish to speak:

Lee McGrath, Legislative Counsel and Managing Attorney of the Institute for Justice Minnesota Office; and

Jarrett Skorup, policy analyst and Digital Engagement Manager at the Mackinac Center for Public Policy.

Charles Davis, Assistant Prosecuting Attorney for the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office, testified in opposition to the bill, and addressed questions.

Charles S. Owens, State Director for the National Federation of Independent Business, testified in support of the bill. Questions followed.

The Chair opened the floor to committee members for discussion on the bill.

On February 11, 2016, the committee adopted the substitute (H-1) for House Bill 4629.

Representative Graves moved to report House Bill 4629 with the recommendation that the substitute (H-1) be adopted and that the bill then pass.

The motion prevailed by an affirmative vote of a majority of the members appointed to and serving on the committee, voting as follows:

Yeas: Representatives McBroom, Howrylak, Graves, Theis, Robinson, and Pagan, (6/6)

Nays: None. (0/6)

The bill and substitute were referred to the full House.

The Chair laid before the committee House Bill 4982.

HB 4982 (Victory)

Employment security; administration; unemployment insurance benefit claims; require additional notice and examination for fraud determination.

Representative Victory, the bill sponsor, explained the bill.

Karyn Ferrick, Legislative Affairs Director for the Michigan Talent Investment Agency in the Michigan Department of Talent and Economic Development, and Stephen M. Geskey, State and Federal Policy Director in the Unemployment Insurance Agency in the Michigan Department of Talent and Economic Development, testified on the issue. Questions followed.

David Vela, Julie Dalrymple, and George Patterson testified in support, but stated on their cards they would like more changes made to the bill.

The committee went at ease at 12:08 p.m.

The committee re-convened at 1:42 p.m.

Dr. H. Luke Schaefer, Associate Professor at the School of Social Work and Associate Professor at Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy at the University of Michigan, stated he supports in principle, but would like to see changes made to the bill. Questions followed. Copies of his handouts are attached.

Zachary Jones testified in support of the bill. Questions followed. A copy of his written testimony is attached.

Tim Hughes, representing the Michigan AFL-CIO, testified on the bill.

Deborah A Fragel, advocate for unemployed workers, testified in support of the bill. Questions followed.

Joseph Dalia submitted a testimony card in support of the bill, but did not wish to speak.

The following individuals submitted testimony cards stating working through concerns, but did not wish to speak:

Chris Mitchell, Vice-President of Government and Political Affairs for Michigan Health and Hospital Association *;

Wendy Block, Director of Health Policy and Human Resources for the Michigan Chamber of Commerce; and

DeLaney McKinley, Director of Human Resource Policy and Membership Development for Michigan Manufacturers Association.

*Submitted written testimony.

Steve Gray, Attorney at Law and Director of University of Michigan Law School Unemployment Insurance Clinic, submitted written testimony on behalf of the Michigan Poverty Law Program, but did not testify. A copy is attached.

David M. Blanchard, Attorney representing the Blanchard and Walker law firm, submitted his written testimony via email, but did not testify. A copy is attached.

There being no other business before the committee; Representative Robinson moved to adjourn the meeting.

The motion prevailed, the time being 2:16 p.m.

The Chair declared the Committee adjourned.

Ed McBroom, Chair	
House Standing Committee on Oversight	and Ethics
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Joy Brewer, Committee Clerk	Date approved by the committee